We Claim:

1. A method of making a crimped thermoplastic multicomponent fiber comprising:

extruding a multicomponent fiber from a thermoplastic melt in a crimpable cross-sectional configuration, the multicomponent fiber comprising a first thermoplastic component and a second thermoplastic component, wherein the first component includes a dielectrically susceptible material;

quenching the multicomponent fiber;

attenuating the multicomponent fiber to form a substantially uncrimped thermoplastic fiber; and

subjecting the multicomponent fiber to a dielectric energy field to activate the crimp.

2. The method of Claim 1 wherein a plurality of the fibers is formed and further comprising the step of collecting the fibers upon a moving surface to form a nonwoven web of multicomponent fibers.

3. The method of Claim 2 wherein the step of subjecting the multicomponent fibers to the dielectric energy field occurs after the step of collecting the multicomponent fibers upon the moving surface.

4. The method of Claim 3 further comprising the step of bonding the nonwoven web and wherein the step of subjecting the multicomponent fibers to the dielectric energy field occurs after the step of bonding the nonwoven web.

5. The method of Claim 2 wherein the first thermoplastic component comprises a polyolefin thermoplastic polymer and a dielectrically susceptible additive material selected from the group consisting of carbon black, ferrite, tin oxide, silicon carbide, calcium chloride, zircon, magnetite, silicon carbide, calcium chloride, alumina, magnesium oxide, and titanium dioxide.

6. The method of Claim 5 wherein the first component comprises from about 60% by weight to about 95% by weight polypropylene and from about 5% by weight to about 40% by weight carbon black.

7. The method of Claim 6 wherein the second component is polyethylene.

8. The method of Claim 7 wherein the crimpable cross-sectional configuration is a side-by-side configuration or an eccentric sheath-core configuration.

9. A method of making a nonwoven web comprising crimped thermoplastic multicomponent staple length fibers comprising:

forming multicomponent staple length fibers into a nonwoven web, the multicomponent staple length fibers comprising a first thermoplastic component and a second thermoplastic component in a crimpable cross-sectional configuration, wherein the first component includes a dielectrically susceptive material; and

subjecting the staple length fibers to a dielectric energy field to activate the crimp.

10. The method of Claim 9 further comprising the step of bonding the nonwoven web by a method selected from the group consisting of thermal point bonding, through air bonding, adhesive bonding and entanglement bonding.

11. The method of Claim 10 wherein the step of subjecting the staple length fibers to the dielectric energy field occurs prior to the step of forming the fibers into a nonwoven web.

12. The method of Claim 10 wherein the step of subjecting the staple length fibers to the dielectric energy field occurs after the step of forming the fibers into a nonwoven web.

13. The method of Claim 10 wherein the step of subjecting the staple length fibers to the dielectric energy field occurs after the step of bonding the nonwoven web.

14. The method of Claim 9 wherein the nonwoven web further comprises secondary fibers and wherein at least some of the crimped thermoplastic staple length fibers wrap around at least some of the secondary fibers when the crimped is activated.

15. The method of Claim 14 wherein the secondary type of fiber is selected from the group consisting of cellulosic fibers and thermoplastic staple length fibers.

16. A crimped thermoplastic multicomponent fiber comprising a first thermoplastic component and a second thermoplastic component arranged in a crimpable cross-sectional configuration, wherein the first thermoplastic component includes a dielectrically susceptible material.

17. The crimped thermoplastic multicomponent fiber of Claim 16 wherein the crimpable cross-sectional configuration is a side-by-side configuration or an eccentric sheath-core configuration.

18. The crimped thermoplastic multicomponent fiber of Claim 17 wherein the first component comprises a dielectrically susceptible polymer selected from the group consisting of nylon and copolyesters.

19. The crimped thermoplastic multicomponent fiber of Claim 17 wherein the first component comprises a polyolefin thermoplastic polymer and a dielectrically susceptible additive material selected from the group consisting of carbon black, ferrite, tin oxide, silicon carbide, calcium chloride, zircon, magnetite, silicon carbide, calcium chloride, alumina, magnesium oxide, and titanium dioxide.

20. The crimped thermoplastic multicomponent fiber of Claim 19 wherein the first component comprises from about 60% by weight to about 95% by weight polypropylene and from about 5% by weight to about 40% by weight carbon black.

21. The crimped thermoplastic multicomponent fiber of Claim 20 wherein the second component comprises polyethylene.

22. A nonwoven web comprising a plurality of the crimped thermoplastic multicomponent fibers of Claim 16.

23. A nonwoven web comprising a plurality of the crimped thermoplastic multicomponent fibers of Claim 16 and further comprising secondary fibers, wherein at least some of the crimped thermoplastic fibers are wrapped around at least some of the secondary fibers.

24. The nonwoven web of Claim 23 wherein the secondary fibers comprise cellulosic fibers and the nonwoven web further comprising superabsorbent material.

25. An absorbent article comprising an absorbent core material, the absorbent core material comprising the nonwoven web of Claim 24.

26. An absorbent article comprising the nonwoven web of Claim 22.